

St. Luke's Parish

39 Green Lane, Thornhill, Ontario L3T 6K5 Tel: 905-881-2786
 Website: <https://stlukesth.archtoronto.org> Email: st.lukesparish@rogers.com



Pastor: Fr. Mark Van Patten - Ext. 222
Associate Pastor: Fr. Wenceslao Abalos - Ext. 227
Secretary: Lois Henderson - Ext. 221
Pastoral Associate: John Humphries - Ext 226
Parish Social Ministry Coordinator: Natalie Doucet - Ext 235
Lay Pastoral Associate: Antoinette Agostinelli - Ext 233
Youth Minister - Alan Lee Hoy - 232

Masses: Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
 Sunday - 8:45, 10:30 and 12:15 P.M.
 Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri. - 8:00 A.M., Tue. - 7:00 P.M.
 Devotions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help: Tuesday - 7:00 P.M.
 Confessions: Saturday 4:00-4:45 P.M. and Tuesday after Devotions
 Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30-4:00 905-881-2786

PARISH	St. Anthony's	St. Rene Goupil/St. Luke	St. Robert C.H.S.	Saint John Paul II
SCHOOLS:	141 Kirk Dr. Thornhill 905-889-7420	135 Green Lane Thornhill 905-881-2300	8101 Leslie St. Thornhill 905-889-4982	155 Red Maple Rd. Richmond Hill L4B 4P9 905-709-3134/709-3136

For more information on Catholic education in our community or to reach your local school board trustee, contact the York Catholic District School Board at 905-713-2711 or www.ycdsb.ca

PLEASE KEEP US UP TO DATE; COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING & PUT IN COLLECTION BASKET

Name	Phone
Address	Postal Code
Children & Dates of Births:	
.....	
New Parishioner <input type="checkbox"/>	Envelopes <input type="checkbox"/>
Change of Address <input type="checkbox"/>	Moving out of Parish <input type="checkbox"/>

The Voices in Our Head



The story of **Zacchaeus** is a powerful example of God’s forgiving love at work in the world. It demonstrates that no person or situation is beyond hope or outside the limits of God’s mercy. When we hurt all over, live in shame, or are on our knees because of the weight of our sins, it is then that we leave ourselves open for the power of God to work in our lives. Christ’s invitation to Zacchaeus to “come down, hurry because I must stay at your house today” is addressed to everyone who is not happy with their situation. This is an opportunity to open our hearts and place before God our fears, worries, uncertainties and to ask for the richness of his healing presence in the midst of our concerns. Jesus is always out meeting people, befriending them where they are and offering them a love that has the power to change their lives. It is a love that involves continuous conversion and a change of behaviour on our part. Knowing that God accepts us unconditionally should lead us to respond generously too. We have a future and should not feel held back by our sinful past.

A man convicted of numerous crimes was asked why he committed them. He said he did not plan to but a voice in his head kept encouraging him. Upon later reflection he realized that the voice was not his own.

The same is true of a woman who attempted suicide on numerous occasions. When asked why, she told a psychiatrist that a voice in her head kept saying that ‘I hate you’ and that I should just end it all. When asked how it is possible for the ‘I’ to hate the ‘self’ she realized that it was a metaphysical impossibility so there must have been another power at play.

A few years ago a friend who lost a loved one and was so distraught that she thought she could not carry on. Then one day a voice in her head told her: you are mine and everything will be ok. The voice brought her great consolation.

Like these examples we all have voices in our head that speak to us, sometimes they work for us, and sometimes they work against us in the forms of positive and negative self-talk. The key to having them work for us is in discerning which voice is speaking. Author Wendy Nelson suggests that we can tell which voice it is by the agenda it supports. The Enemy’s agenda is rejection and distress whereas the Ally’s agenda is peace and wholeness so if what the voice is saying leads us to despair we should ignore it and instead listen for the voice that affirms us. Ignatius of Loyola describes such feelings as desolation and consolation and encourages us to note the behavior connected with the feeling and repeat the behavior that results in consolation.

It is upsetting to think that the Enemy is able to use our voice to manipulate us but it makes sense. For if we thought it was actually the devil speaking then we would never listen, but our own voice we happily follow. St. Mark warns of this when he says, “whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile, but what comes out of a person that defiles.”²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come.” The key therefore is to refuse the devil permission to steal our voice.

This weekend in the Gospel, we encounter Zacchaeus who learns to discern the voices in his head as he recognizes Jesus’ voice calling him to communion and generosity and rejects the Enemy’s voice of greed and corruption. May we also learn to discern the voice of Jesus calling us by name and leading us by still waters. John Humphries.

For a video on this topic please see:
<https://youtu.be/KtqcpRUM1IU>

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday	Soul of Judy Valletta
Tuesday	Souls of Chiara & Michael Vaira Souls of Yvonne & Wahib Fakoory Soul of Elizabeth Flynn Soul of Anna Kok Mee Chin
Wednesday	Soul of Eugenia DeSa
Thursday	Soul of Kee Yuen
Friday	Soul of John Frederick Jack Wilson

We pray for the sick in our community, that they may draw strength from the example of Jesus and bear their sufferings with courage and love, especially: **Ave Warren, Brian Dorrian, Tony da Camara Jr., Tracey Hutchinson, Kevin Arcand, Jairus Papio, San Hu and Elona**

PRAYER REQUEST LINE

905 881-2786 ext. 250

PARISH NEWS



HOLYLAND ART November 16/17

The main income for the Christian community of Bethlehem, the birthplace of Jesus, is the sale of hand crafted olive wood religious items to the pilgrims who visit the area. The past few years have been extremely hard for the community due to declining tourism. We are fortunate to have a variety of these beautiful items for sale in the parish hall the weekend of **Nov 16/17**, just in time for Christmas! Your support will help strengthen the Christian presence in the Holy Land.



CWL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

The CWL will be holding their annual Christmas Bazaar in the parish hall the weekend of Nov 30/Dec 1st. You don't want to miss it!



ALTAR SERVER AWARDS

On October 19th three altar servers from St. Luke's Parish received the "Bishop's Altar Server Award for Service" from Bishop Kirkpatrick during the Annual Bishop's Altar Server Awards Ceremony. We

offer our sincere thanks and congratulations to the following altar servers: **Sharon Mathias, Andrew Chester and Michael Chester.**



The Shepherds' Trust *Caring for those who always cared for us.*

As members of our Catholic community, we regularly benefit from the tireless service of our priests. Called by God and ordained to care for His people, our priests serve our families, in churches, schools, hospitals, nursing homes, missions and on the streets. The Shepherds' Trust ensures our priests can live their retirement years with dignity.

For many of our retired shepherds, this means, "lending a hand" to accommodate their special needs so that they continue to live with dignity. **The Shepherds' Trust collection will take place in all parishes in the Archdiocese the weekend of November 16/17.**

This fund does more than just support our priests in their retirement years; it is a tangible way to care for those who always cared for us and give thanks for the blessings we have received through them. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will be selling their knitted items on the weekend of **Saturday, November 23rd** and **Sunday, November 24th**. All proceeds will go to charity. For more information, please call Helen at 905 707-7823.

OUT OF THE COLD 2019

Thank you to the many volunteers who have signed up to assist with Out of the Cold starting Thursday, Nov 21st.

CLOTHING: Please bring any clean, gently used winter clothing for both men and woman (no children's clothing please) to the parish hall. If you have any questions please call Natalie Doucet at 905 881-2786 ext. 235.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CHRISTMAS PARTY 2019

The Knights of Columbus – St. Luke's Council 4393 is inviting all parishioners for a Christmas Party at our Council chamber. The Knights will be providing food (chicken or veal dinner) and wine.

Venue: 10 Harlech Court, Thornhill, L3T 6L5

When: Saturday, November 30, 2019

Who: All Parishioners

Time: Karaoke 6:00 pm (Sing and Dance)

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Cost: \$30 single, \$50 couples,
(children under 12 are free!)

To register, please contact in person or by email:

Fletcher Pereira – fletcher.pereira@gmail.com

Bill Withers – billbrodiebill@gmail.com

George Hung – georgehung@gmail.com

Joseph D'Souza – joedsouza2006@gmail.com

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